

What is claimed is:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:

a printing portion for printing based on received print data; and

a plurality of controllers for respectively receiving a print job, and generating image data by image development of the received print job, each controller requesting the printing portion to start printing after complete image development of a received print job.

2. An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a job control portion for receiving and storing the printing request, and instructing the printing portion to start in sequence that the job control portion receives the printing request.

3. An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the job control portion informs a user who sends a print job of printing information.

4. An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the printing information is a time to start printing.

5. An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein

the printing information is a time to finish printing.

6. An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a selector for selecting a way of requesting the printing portion to start printing between after complete image development of a received print job and after complete image development of one page of a received print job.

7. A control method for controlling an image forming system having a plurality of controllers which generate print data by image development of received print job, and transmit the generated print data to a printing portion, the control method comprising the steps of:

each controller issuing a print request to the printing portion after complete development of a received print job;

storing each print request sequentially; and

having the printing portion print in the stored print request sequence.

8. An image data processing method comprising the steps of:

receiving a print job;

developing the print job and generating print data; and

requesting a printing portion to start printing after complete image development of the received print job.

9. A program product comprising the steps of:

receiving a print job;

developing the print job and generating print data; and

requesting a printing portion to start printing after
complete image development of the received print job.